

Coming shortly

- 22nd February 10.30 -12, Coffee Morning with pancakes - Staunton-on-Wye Village Hall.
- 25th February 11.00 am-12.30 pm 'Pancakes in the Pews', Weobley Parish Church
- 27th February - The first of our Lent Lunches at Letton Church 12 noon - 2pm

The Living Word People & Steeple during the week for the *following* insert gives Bible readings with Sunday. Extra copies with *this* commentary to read and think about *Sunday's readings* are by the door.

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Weekday Services

26th February Ash Wednesday

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church - Ash Wednesday Service

7.30 pm Weobley Parish Church - Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday Services 16th February

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

Eucharist CW

10.30 am Letton

Mattins

Retired Clergy and Reader

Revd Susan Verwey 01981 500626
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Group admin and publicity

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Byford, Monnington, Letton websites:
Rob Howell robhowell67@gmail.com

Copy for next week no later than Wednesday to: admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

For more news, see also www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk or Facebook

People & Steeple

News and contacts for the Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes
Weobley, Sarnesfield, Norton Canon,

Staunton-on-Wye, Byford, Monnington, Letton

Sunday 9th February 2020

Most of us who are reading these words would be called 'religious' because, unlike over 90% of the UK population, we go to church. Most of us probably pray and read the Bible at times other than in church and give money to help church funds.

Perhaps you might raise your eyebrows when I say that we have to be very careful when we are 'being religious', but our reading from Isaiah today says much the same thing. The people were being more religious than many of us will be in Lent by fasting diligently, but God wasn't impressed. God could see that their ordinary everyday lives didn't match up with their 'religious' life. There were hypocrisy and double standards.

Jesus challenges us to not be like that. He says we are salt, used from time immemorial to stop meat and food 'going off', stopping the rot in our communities by living the 'non-religious' part of lives His way, enhancing the flavour of life for all by honesty and good deeds. He doesn't want us to retreat into 'holy huddles', but to mix in with people so all are reached and affected for the better. He challenges us to be light in the dark places. Whether we're rather dim lights or bright ones, we are noticed, and probably many more people than we realise get their ideas about God and how He changes people, from looking at us. We stick out like hilltop towns, standard lamps or transmitting masts at night. So, as the old children's hymn says 'In this world of darkness, so we must shine. You in your small corner, and I in mine'; all the time, not just at church.

Peter Houghton

Theme

What it means to be a worshipper of God and a disciple of Jesus.

Isaiah 58:1-12 – The people of Israel's hypocrisy cuts them off from God who seeks, not lip-service, but heart-felt worship.

1 Corinthians 2:1-16 – The wisdom of God, humanly hard to grasp, but revealed spiritually, is the reality of the Cross.

Matthew 5:13-20 – Worshipping God is upholding His Word as disciples of Jesus, who are salt and light to the world.

Also read: Psalm 112

Services Sunday 9th February

10.30 am Weobley

Eucharist (CW)

11.00 am Norton Canon

Holy Communion BCP

BCP: Book of Common Prayer, traditional form

CW: Common Worship, modern words

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths (Weobley)
David Games

If you know of anyone who is unwell, please let the Administrator or any of the clergy know.

In our Group of Parishes

The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes serves a rural community and we give thanks for all involved in agriculture, we pray for them, and seek ways to support them.

The Parish of Sarnesfield, the Churchwardens Hilary Havard and Viv Leech, and all the church community.

Those who contribute to *People & Steeple* and other media.

Diocese of Hereford
Ledbury

Those who serve on the Diocesan Synod and all the other Diocesan Boards and Committees.

The wider Church

All other churches in Herefordshire and nationally and across the world who share with us to proclaim God's love to the world.

The Anglican Church worldwide
Pray for the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Collect

3 before Lent
9 February 2020

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

News



Second Tuesday Coffee in Weobley Parish Church

Tuesday 11 February 10:30 – 12.00pm

Please join us for coffee, cake and conversation.

Do note that the Second Tuesday Coffee Morning on **10th March** in Weobley Parish Church will be followed by a Lent Soup and Roll Lunch, so put a note in your diary to come for coffee and stay for lunch.

Further details from Pat Millington on 319330 or Wendy Hereford 319223

COFFEE MORNING WITH PANCAKES

SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Staunton-on-Wye Village Hall
10.30 – 12:00

Plus Raffle, Cakes & Bottle Stall
All proceeds to St Mary's Church



Churches Together in Weobley

Lent meetings are as follows
(Wednesdays at 2.30 pm)

March 4th, 11th, 18th
and 25th.

St Thomas's Presbytery,
Kington Road, Weobley.

Everyone welcome.



We will be holding our Lent Soup Lunches again this year. More details to follow, but for now here are the dates we have booked ready for you to put in your diaries. There is no charge for the lunch but donations are most welcome and all proceeds will go to Forage Aid.

Thursday 27th February - Letton Church
Wednesday 4th March, Staunton on Wye
Saturday 7th March - Sarnesfield Court
Tuesday 10th March - Weobley Church
Thursday 2nd April - Bridge Sollars/Byford

For more information on Forage Aid
Please visit:

www.forageaid.org.uk

